



Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act

Help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act by sharing your “Wilderness Words.”

Share your wilderness stories, vision, and poetry. Tell us about your trip in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. What does wilderness mean to you? Why do you value wilderness? Share your “Wilderness Words” to keep the wilderness vision alive.

The Wilderness Act was signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson on September 3, 1964 and declared a national policy *“to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness.”* The Wilderness Act describes wilderness as an *area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled*, where humans are visitors who do not remain, where the land *retains its primeval character and influence and which generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature.* Wilderness allows us to experience wild places and natural processes. Federally designated wilderness areas are protected and valued for their ecological, historical, scientific and experiential resources.

The founders of the wilderness system included writers like Aldo Leopold, Bob Marshall, Sigurd Olson, and Howard Zahniser. Their writings continue to inspire us. These visionaries shared a passionate conviction that *wilderness is not a luxury but is vital to human well-being and to American culture.* Share your thoughts on wilderness values and continue nourishing the distinct American cultural value of wilderness and inspiring generations to love and explore the wilderness.

All work must be original and must not exceed 1000 words. The USDA Forest Service reserves the rights to select the pieces included on the web page and will credit authors for their work. Stories will be posted on the Superior National Forest web page at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/superior/home> and may be shared with other Forest Service promotions, publications, websites and other media forms. **Please limit stories to 1,000 words.** Wilderness Words may be submitted now through September 30, 2014 and must include the following information:

I am entering a: Poem _____ Short Story _____ Essay _____

Name: _____ **Home Phone:** _____

Title of Work: _____ **Day Phone:** _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Email address: _____

I hereby give the Superior National Forest permission to use my writing for publicity and promotion. I hereby release and discharge the Superior National Forest from any and all claims arising out of the use of the writing, or any rights that I may have in this regard.

Signature _____ **Age:** _____

Submit your Wilderness Words to: r9_superior_NF@fs.fed.us.

If you have questions, call:

Becca Manlove, Kawishiwi Ranger District – 218-365-7569
Sue Duffy, Superior NF Supervisor’s Office– 218-626-4326

Thank you for your support of wilderness!

